

**Next Meeting: February 6, 2002
10:00 a.m. – Kellogg Center**

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of January 9, 2002, Meeting
10:00 a.m.

Present: Carolyn Belknap Bartz, Jill Blixt, Kathleen Clegg, Glenda Hammond, Jill Jacobs, Marge Joslin (for Don Trap), Patricia Keller, Brenda Kotsis, Shari Krishnan, Chris Lerchen (for Kim Kaster), Peggy McNeilly, Patricia Metz, Pam Mish, Bob Opsommer, Ginny Palubin, Brian Pianosi, Sue Rabidioux, Debs Roush, Larry Simpson, Laurie VanderPloeg, Randall VanGasse, Steve Wessels
Ex-Officio members: Mark Larson, Rosanne Renauer, Davide Brock (for Jacquelyn Thompson)

Absent: Deborah Canja Isom, Michael DeVault, Nancy Jackson, Deb Russell, Patricia St. George, Anne White-O'Hara

OSE/EIS Staff: David Brock, Sue Leach, Fran Loose

Guests: Phyllis Cox-Rebori, Paul Kubicek, Sandi Laham, Jerry Oermann, Kathy Pistono

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Laurie VanderPloeg.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Introduction of Guests

Guests attending the meeting were introduced.

Amend/Approve Proposed Agenda

The agenda of the January 9, 2002, meeting was considered. Kathy Pistono, Autism Subgrant 2 Project Director, will present when she arrives. Brenda Kotsis moved, seconded by Bob Opsommer, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried.

Amend/Approve Minutes

The minutes of the December 5, 2001, meeting were considered. Patricia Metz moved, seconded by Brenda Kotsis, to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Chairperson's Report – Laurie VanderPloeg

In June, thank you letters will be sent to SEAC employer(s)/spouse acknowledging their support of the SEAC delegate. Members should submit names and addresses to Laurie or Sue.

Reminder: The February 6 meeting will be at the MSU Kellogg Center. Fran will give details about the joint meeting between SEAC, SICC, and Steering Committee.

The OSE-EIS will survey SEAC delegates and alternates to determine a quorum for the April 3 SEAC meeting.

At today's subcommittee meetings, nominations for Executive Committee should be made. Brian will give more details on this process.

Reminder to complete a SEAC evaluation at the close of each meeting.

State Department Report – David Brock

MI-Access. Each SEAC delegate and alternate received a CD-ROM regarding MI-Access, Michigan's alternate assessment model. The CD-ROM is interactive and dual platform (PC and Mac). The MDE will be using the CD-ROM format in the future for various information (IEP, etc.).

MDE marketing efforts. The MDE is marketing information to raise general respect for public education. Most recently, a brochure was produced introducing the State Board of Education members. This should help raise the State Board's visibility. For more copies of the brochure, contact the State Board office.

Proposed Rules. Official public comment has been put into a data base. OSE-EIS staff is summarizing and analyzing comments to produce the JCAR (Joint Committee on Administrative Rules) report which will include: number of comments received at public hearings, number received in writing, pros/cons, and changes to original proposal based on public comment. The OSE-EIS has had one meeting with Superintendent Watkins to discuss issues and hot topics. Mr. Watkins will be meeting with state advisory groups (SEAC, continuous improvement monitoring process Steering Committee, and State Interagency Coordinating Council) on January 31, 2002. Invitation letters will go out next week inviting the advisory groups to the Oakland Schools Kiva. The purpose of this meeting is to indicate the direction the Department is planning to take on the proposed rules and to receive feedback from the advisory groups before making final decisions. In addition, Mr. Watkins is also seeking input regarding: additional future policy changes needed in special education; work needed to be done with the preschool delivery system, inservice/preservices for professionals, definition of Autism (public comment was mixed; current language will be maintained and further study will be done), etc. If delegates cannot attend, the alternate may come. If alternate cannot come, the CEO of the organization will be asked to name someone. Reimbursements and accommodations will be made.

Autism Project, Subgrant 2. Kathy Pistono, Director of the autism Subgrant 2 presented information regarding the autism grant. The Project is interested in getting input from people knowledge about the needs of students with autism – either SEAC members, or members of the organization. The focus is on two areas of competencies: Knowledge - the information and concepts people know and understand, and Skills - what people are able to do proficiently.

Specifically, Kathy requested the SEAC or anyone knowledgeable about the needs of students with autism provide input to the following question: What, in your opinion, are the 5 most important competencies that teachers of students with autism should possess? People are asked to brainstorm competencies, rank them, and e-mail responses to Kathy Pistono (e-mail or phone at 231.627.5750) by January 31.

The SEAC requests a future presentation be made with the findings and further information on the autism initiative.

State Board Meeting Report – David Brock

The State Board's major focus recently has been accountability and accreditation. The Board passed a proposal for the state's new accountability system, Education YES! This uses multiple factors to help determine if a school is doing well. Public hearings are tentatively scheduled for January 15 (Marquette and Gaylord), January 16 (Grand Rapids and Lansing), and January 17 (Detroit and Saginaw).

[<http://www.state.mi.us/mde/off/board/news/news011213.pdf>]

The purpose of the public hearings is to gather input and establish the scoring system. The internal Department steering group includes administration staff, as well as representatives from School Excellence and Special Education (David Brock).

Information Items

A. State Improvement Grant Update

1) The OSE-EIS is hosting three meetings at MSU's Kellogg Center in February:

- February 6 — SEAC regular meeting
- February 7 — combined meeting with the SEAC, SICC, and continuous improvement monitoring process (CIMP) Steering Committee.
- Friday, February 8 — SICC regular meeting.

All three groups are invited to attend each meeting, as schedules allow. The purpose of the Thursday event is to provide an opportunity for the committees to become better acquainted and to review the preliminary improvement plan submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs relative to compliance issues (not quality issues). Outcomes expected: define/clarify results of the Steering Committee based on the self assessment; look at the fit with SICC and SEAC priorities to start sharing work; discuss prioritization; set ground work for continuing progress.

- 2) Personnel supply and demand strategies group doing well. They are bring to closure the issue of retention, and will be developing strategies for recruitment.
- 3) SIG Partnership Team has been formally folded into CIMP Steering Committee. SEAC originally had a role in recommending members to the Partnership. Since this is not a separate group, SEAC will no longer recommend members.
- 4) Personnel Development Collaborative (through the SIG). Applications are being accepted from leadership teams from organizations and projects which provide personnel development on behalf of infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities and their families (e.g., MAASE, MALDE, CEC, PBS initiative).

The purpose of this Collaborative is to enhance personnel development options which are substantive and sustained in nature, and are designed to increase the capacity of families and schools to meet the learning needs of infants, toddlers, children and youth with disabilities and their families.

The primary anticipated outcome for members of this Collaborative will be to draft a preliminary action plan for what can be done collaboratively to create results around the personnel development needs identified through Michigan's federal self-assessment.

Calendar of events:

- March 14 – planning session (1 from each team)
- April 25 – open awareness session regarding national staff development council standards for staff development
- June 25-27 – primary work session (3 person teams from organizations). Expectation of team members: attend all 3 days, bi-monthly followup
- April 26-27 – facilitator training. Recommendations for facilitators can be given to Fran

B. Executive Committee Nomination Process

Brian Pianosi reviewed the Executive Committee Nomination Process. Each subcommittee should recommend members to the Executive Committee according to procedure: Operations – atleast 1, Policy – atleast 3, SIP – atleast 3.

Considerations should include: attendance, people willing to serve as subcommittee chair, diversity, and term in SEAC (i.e., 2nd year of 3-year term). Submit names to Brian or send them to Sue Leach. The slate of nominations will be presented in February, ballots mailed, and results sent in the March mailing.

Action Items

None.

Ex-Officio Reports

Institutions of Higher Education — Mark Larson reported that the IHE meets next Friday, and he will report SEAC information to them.

Committee Reports

Operations — Brian Pianosi. The subcommittee is working on a procedure for filling vacant seats, revising Bylaws, and redoing the rotation schedule to ensure 51% of parent of or persons with disabilities.

Policy — Steve Wessels. The subcommittee is close to getting information to SEAC on the Department's inclusion statement.

State Improvement Plan — Shari Krishnan. The subcommittee is continuing work on defining access to general curriculum. Kathy Bradford, OSE-EIS Consultant, will be a guest speaker today.

Member Issues

Shari Krishnan — Information will be shared via SEAC's list-serve on the Reauthorization of IDEA. Shari and David will help clarify and identify the time line for reauthorization.

Laurie VanderPloeg — CEC annual convention, February 27 - March 1, Grand Rapids

Peggy McNeilly — Michigan Transition Services Association annual conference, March 13 - 15, Frankenmuth

Future Agenda Items:

- Update on PBS initiative from Bernie Travnika. (Sue will check with Bernie)
- IDEA Reauthorization on future agendas.

The meeting was adjourned to subcommittee meetings.

Submitted by

Sue Leach

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Executive Committee
Minutes of January 9, 2002, Meeting
8:45 a.m.

Present: Chris Lerchen (for Kim Kaster), Shari Krishnan, Bob Opsommer, Ginny Palubin, Brian Pianosi, Laurie VanderPloeg, Steve Wessels
David Brock, Sandi Laham, Sue Leach, Fran Loose,

Review of Today's Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. Kathy Pistono may be a little late for the State Department report.

Future Agenda Development

It was suggested to poll membership to determine a quorum at the April 3 meeting.

Update on PBS activities by Bernie Travnika. Sue will contact Bernie to schedule a presentation at a future meeting.

State Department Report

David will discuss: future uses of CD-ROMs for Department information/forms; State Board of Education brochure; public hearings regarding school accountability/accreditation; and Superintendent Watkins' January 31 meeting regarding proposed rules.

Subcommittee Reports

Subcommittee Chairs reported on the work of their committees. Updates will be shared with the committee of the whole.

Miscellaneous

In the past, SEAC developed a process to identify members to the Partnership Team. This group has been incorporated into the continuous improvement monitoring process Steering Committee. SEAC will no longer have to make membership recommendations.

The SEAC list-serve needs updating. Sue will contact Frank with the updates.

Reauthorization of IDEA is in the initial stage. Shari will work with David in order to share time line information with the SEAC in February.

Submitted by

Sue Leach